



MURRAY HILL MIDDLE SCHOOL

Murray Messages

March 16, 2015

RESPECTFUL

RESPONSIBLE

READY



Principal's Message

Dear MHMS Community,

Over the next few weeks, students will have the opportunity to contribute to fundraising drives for charities developed by their fellow classmates. From March 16 - 27, Ms. Woronecki's students will be selling paper chain links at lunch for twenty-five cents each. All sixth grade chain links bought will be white, seventh grade links will be black, and eighth grade links will be gold. The grade to get the longest chain wins! Proceeds will go to the following organizations: Susan G. Komen Foundation, The Johnson Cancer Center Foundation, and the National Center for Missing and Exploited Children.

Our Student Ambassadors are partnering with Stand Up for Kids DC, a national, non-profit charity that provides outreach services to homeless and at-risk youth. In order to support this charity, the Student Ambassadors are asking for the following items through Monday, March 23rd:

6th Grade: Toothbrushes and travel size toothpaste
7th Grade: Lip balm and travel size lotion
8th Grade: Hand sanitizer/hand wipes and deodorant

Donations are being collected during homeroom.

Sincerely,

Joshua R. Wasilewski
Principal

Dates to Remember:

March 17 – Pre-Assessment Band Concert/Workshop – 7:00 p.m. in the Cafeteria

March 18 – “Getting to Know MHMS” – 6:30 - 7:30 p.m. in the Media Center

March 19 and 20 – Howard County Middle School Band Assessment at Hammond High School

March 20 – Advanced Debate Team Tournament at Johns Hopkins APL

March 25 – Spring Pre-Assessment Chorus Concert – 7:00 p.m.

School News and Events:

PARCC Testing

Throughout the month of March, students will take the PARCC Performance Based Assessments for both English/Language Arts and Mathematics. These interactive computer-based assessments are designed to reflect the full range of content and skills found in the Common Core State Standards.

This week, students practiced taking the assessment through the PARCC website to provide them with the opportunity to practice test items and become familiarized with the online tools that are designed for the test. MHMS PARCC Assessments are scheduled to take place on the following dates:

March 11, 12, & 13 Grade 6 online PARCC

March 16, 17, & 18 Grade 7 online PARCC

March 19, 20 and 23 Grade 8 online PARCC

It is important that students get a good night's rest and arrive to school on time for their designated testing dates. Your encouragement and support are greatly appreciated.

Please visit the HCPSS Family Mathematics Support Center at <http://hcpssfamilymath.weebly.com/mds-parcc-assessments.html> for information and resources related to the upcoming PARCC Assessments. Additionally, if you would like to explore the practice tests for your child's grade level, please visit: <http://parcc.pearson.com/practice-tests/>

Ursa Major 2849 Open House at Hammond High School

The robotics team at Hammond High School, Ursa Major 2849, will be hosting an open house for students in grades 2-8 this Saturday. We hope that students and parents will consider joining us! During this event, guests will have the opportunity to explore what goes into designing a robot, and see how that process translated into Ursa Major's competition robot, Rockem' Sockem'. Our guests will also have the opportunity to create a working paper circuit that will light up their own unique robot design! **Join us for the Ursa Major special event at Hammond High School from 10-11:30 a.m. on Saturday, March 14th!**

Ursa Major 2849 Wants you...



Murray Hill Music Boosters are sponsoring...

GIFT CARD BINGO

- ✓ Bingo will be 15 games and 2 Specials Games
- ✓ Gift card prizes are from many local restaurants, grocery and other stores nail salons, and other businesses.

Tickets Purchased at the Door Include:

- ✓ \$15.00—general bingo (3 game cards per bingo game)
- ✓ \$20.00—general bingo + 2 specials game cards + Bingo dabber
- ✓ \$2.00—each specials game card
- ✓ Performances by some of our wonderfully talented students!

Special student price \$15 for general bingo + 2 specials games

Bingo dabbers will also be available for \$1
(limited quantities available)

Refreshments will be available for purchase

Friday, March 13, 2015 - 7:00 pm
Murray Hill Middle School Cafeteria

Hope to see you there!!! It's going to be so much fun!!!!

Getting to Know MHMS

In an effort to build upon Murray Hill Middle School's relationship with the community, I will be hosting the first segment of our school information series titled, "Getting to Know MHMS" on Wednesday, March 18. This session will focus on how our school's structure, staff, and programs are aligned to meet the diverse needs of our wonderful students and community. Guests will then be invited to stay for a Q&A session with me. I hope you will be able to join me for this event. Please see the information below regarding this event.

Date and Time:

3/18/15 from 6:30 - 7:30 pm

Location:

MHMS Media Center

Agenda:

6:30 - 7:00 pm - School structure, staff, and programs at MHMS

7:00 - 7:30 pm - Q&A with the Principal

2014-2015 Memory Books

Don't miss out on your 2014-2015 Memory Book! Memory Books will be for sale online from **March 16 to March 27**. Flyers with directions were sent home with students.

To order your copy:

1. Go to <http://www.schoolpix.com>
2. Click Second Chance *Order Form*
3. Enter Shoot Key: **4NSLKPKD**

Memory Books will be distributed at the end of the school year. This is the only opportunity to purchase your copy! Get yours today!

Student Arrival / Dismissal for Car Riders and Walkers:

Parents that drop off / pick up their students

Please follow the established traffic pattern to ensure student and staff safety. The pattern is as follows: Make the first right turn into the MHMS parking lot. Drop your child off at the designated area (sidewalk) then proceed out of the parking lot by making a left onto Winter Sun Road.

Parents of student walkers

Please remind your child to use a designated crosswalk location when crossing the street and to always look both ways before crossing.

Please use the established school procedures described above. Per Emerson Community's request, **Fall Rain Drive should not be used** to drop-off and pick-up students.

MHMS Day at the Orioles!

Date: Sunday May 17th

Time: 1:35 p.m.

vs. Los Angeles Angels

Cost: \$15 per ticket

Contact Ms. Daniller if you are interested in meeting us at Camden Yards for a fun day with the MHMS community!

jamie_daniller@hcpss.org

From The Health Room

****IMPORTANT – NEW IMMUNIZATION REQUIREMENTS****

Effective the first day of school, 2015-2016, 1 dose of Tdap vaccine and 1 dose of Meningococcal vaccine will be required by the state of Maryland for **all students entering Grade 7**. If we **DO NOT** receive proof of immunization, your child will be unable to attend school. Many students may have already received these immunizations, but the Health Room may not have the **updated** immunization record. Please contact your child's doctor and send/fax in an **updated** copy of your child's immunizations to the Health Room. Our fax # is (301) 317-5048.

If you have any questions, please call Murray Hill Middle at (410) 880-5897 and ask for the Health Room.

PTA News

Hello Murray Hill Middle School Community!

Ahhh warmer weather and snow-free days are just around the corner. You may have experienced a bout of cabin fever. To shake that cabin fever, we invite you to partake in the exciting upcoming events:

The African American Community Roundtable (AACR) is sponsoring “Preparing for Partnership for Assessment of Readiness for College and Careers”. *

When: Saturday, March 14 - 10:30 am - 12:00pm

Where: Oakland Mills High School, Kilimanjaro Road, Columbia, MD 21045

Childcare is available! RSVP is required for childcare – call 410-313-1598.

Laurel Woods ES PTA Summer Camp and Enrichment Program Expo

When: Thursday, March 19 - 6:30 - 8:30pm

Where: North Laurel Community Center, 9411 Whiskey Bottom Road, Laurel

Annual International Parent Education Seminar

When: Monday, March 23 - 6pm

Where: Jim Rouse Theatre @ Wilde Lake High School. 5460 Trumpeter Road, Columbia

Interpreters and childcare available.

Questions? Contact International Student Services Office: 410-313-1293

PTA Family Fitness Night *featuring* Afro Jazz Exercise- a fusion of West African dance styles and classic Jazz dance.

When: Thursday, March 26 - 6:30- 8:00pm

Where: Murray Hill Middle School Gymnasium

Chick fil-A Spirit Night

When: April 23 - 5:00- 8:00pm

Where: Johns Hopkins Road, Laurel

MHMS PTA Student Art Show

When: April 30 - 6:30pm

Where: MHMS Gymnasium

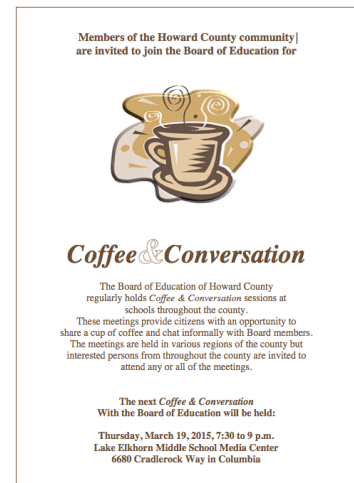
We look forward to seeing you soon!

Your MHMS PTA

HCPSS News:

Coffee & Conversation

Members of the Howard County community are invited to join the Board of Education for Coffee & Conversation on Thursday, March 19, 2015 from 7:30 – 9:00 p.m. at the Lake Elkhorn Middle School Media Center, located at 6800 Cradlerock Way in Columbia.



Making up Snow Days

The last day of school was originally scheduled for June 10 on the 2014-2015 school calendar, which reserved five additional days through June 17 for inclement weather makeup. As of today, all five of those makeup days have been used, plus three additional inclement weather days. Once the winter season has ended, the Board of Education will make a decision regarding the makeup of the additional missed days.

Howard County To Host Regional History Day Competition

Saturday, March 14, 8 a.m.-3:30 p.m. - Reservoir High School, 11550 Scaggsville Road, Fulton

HCPSS will host its eleventh annual History Day Competition, "Leadership and Legacy in History," this Saturday. Students in Grades 6–12 have worked for many months conducting historical research on a self-selected topic prior to the countywide competition. [More information.](#)

Howard County Library System Spelling Bee

Friday, March 13, 7 p.m. - Reservoir High School, 11500 Scaggsville Road, Fulton

The Howard County Library System (HCLS) is once again hosting the 2015 HCLS Spelling Bee - a countywide bee for winners of individual school bees held this fall and winter in Grades 4-8. The county champion will participate in the National Spelling Bee in Washington, DC. [More information.](#)

Youth Art Month Showcase

Through April 9 - HCLS Miller Branch, 9421 Frederick Road, Ellicott City

The Youth Art Month Showcase is now on display at the Howard County Library System Miller Branch. The HCPSS Visual Arts Office, in partnership with the Howard County Library System, is hosting this exhibit of K-12 student artwork from each HCPSS school. [More information.](#)